

# BENICIA BOMBER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENICIA ARSENAL EMPLOYEES'  
WELFARE ASSOCIATION — NOT A GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION

VOL. 1, No. 12

DECEMBER, 1951





Looking like a portion of a battlefield after a saturation bombing raid, the embankment for Warehouse No. 1 begins to take shape, ready for concrete placement.

The small individual holes and ditches which cover the top surface of the fill are excavations for the pile caps and beams which support the heavy concrete floor slab of the warehouse.

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# BACKING UP BENICIA...



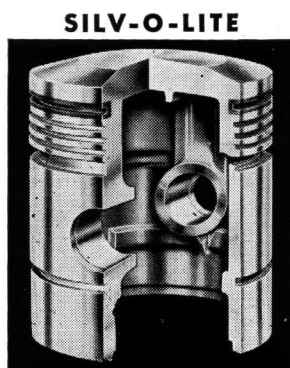
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# Greetings to our Advertisers

This Yuletide issue completes our first year of publication. The Benicia Bomber now attains rank as an established monthly magazine and publicists assure us that it is one of the finest in its field.

Such comment from "the trade" is naturally very gratifying but even more gratifying is the response from the thousands of employee-readers here at Benicia Arsenal. Their interest mounts with each succeeding issue and most Arsenal families have carefully kept all of their copies for frequent reference.

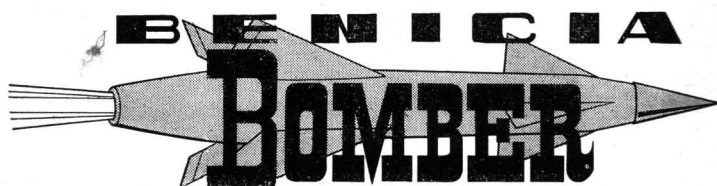
The Benicia Bomber is a friendly publication with its columns of personal items about all of us. It is highly informative, too, through the dozens of well-written, illustrated stories and articles.

And, while we extoll the all-around quality of our magazine we are mindful of the generous support accorded us by our advertisers. *They are the ones who made The Benicia Bomber such a successful publication* and we are truly grateful.

So—while we extend to the Advertisers our hearty appreciation, with it goes our Sincere Wishes for THE MERRIEST CHRISTMAS AND THE HAPPIEST NEW YEAR OF ALL.

*Melvin F. Mello*

President, Benicia  
Arsenal Employees'  
Welfare Association



BENICIA, CALIFORNIA

VOL. 1, No. 12

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENICIA ARSENAL EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION  
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## DECEMBER 1951

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THE COVER PAGE: This "Spirit of Christmas" picture is typical of millions of American homes. However, this one was taken by Warrant Officer George Posner in his own home.

### BENICIA ARSENAL EMPLOYEES' WELFARE ASSOCIATION

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LIEUTENANT JACKSON

**G**UARDING Benicia Arsenal's shoreline is an 80-man Port Security Unit of the United States Coast Guard. Lt. Curtis C. Jackson, its commanding officer, activated the unit June 18 of this year. He is assisted by Lt. G. K. Haas as executive officer.

Other officers are Lt. Carl Weiland, Lt. (j.g.) Jack Crissy, Lt. (j.g.) John R. Duart, and Lt. (j.g.) Holly H. Hyre. Machinist Myles Lattin, warrant officer, just came aboard.

The 70 enlisted men are all trained in handling explosives. Their main job is the supervising of loading explosives at Port Chicago.

Their secondary job of "boarding" takes almost an equal amount of their time. This consists of checking private boats along the Arsenal shoreline for proper safety equipment in compliance with maritime regulations. They are also on call for life-saving and disaster.

A predominately young group, mostly between the ages of 19 and 25, almost half of the men are on their first enlistment. The group is divided almost equally between bachelors and benedicts. They come from all over the United States, with only one, Yeoman Herbert M. Sanford, calling the Bay Area home. Sanford is the son of a Lafayette dentist.

The men live in barracks T-4 on the post. If they do not have regular "duty" call and are not on emergency call, they can go down town for entertainment, visit friends, or spend the evening in the enlisted men's club. The EM club offers ping pong, pool, bowling, and shuffleboard — an excellent library — and piano, juke box, and television. The Club plans monthly parties to which the coast guardsmen and the members of the Army's Arsenal Unit, Technical Service Unit 9307, bring guests. The Club also sponsors occasional off-post parties and picnics.

Executive Officer Lieutenant Haas lives in Concord with his wife,

# Our Own Navy

## The Coast Guard's Eighty-man Port Security Unit Does a Big Job With Small Ships — It's a Fine Outfit

Jeannette, and their five sons. Lieutenant Haas has been with the Unit since July 3. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, his home state, with a Ph.B. in literature.

During the second World War he served with the Coast Guard on an LST and an oil tanker in the waters around Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, and in the Pacific area around Tarawa and Okinawa.

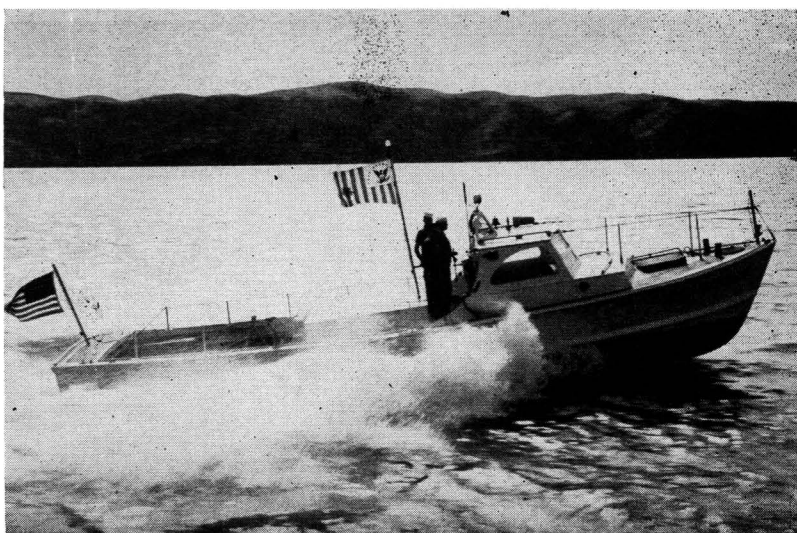
Port Security Unit Commander Lieutenant Jackson also lives in Concord, with his wife, Harriet, and three-year-old daughter, Cindy. During World War II, Mr. Jackson served with the Coast Guard in this same territory, supervising handling of explosives in the Port Chicago area. Following the war, he returned to his home in Monterey and became a member of the California Highway Patrol until returning.

The Coast Guard is, in times of peace, the law enforcement agency of the U. S. Treasury Department. In time of war, or times when the President of the United States declares a state of National Emergency, the Coast Guard automatically becomes a unit of the Navy.

During the winter season craft in the straits drift off course, motors develop trouble, or fishing boats fail to come home on time. On a recent weekend when winds of gale velocity swept the Bay Area, the unit was swamped with calls and searches for small craft in distress.

The Coast Guard does not check for illegal fishing. They check only small craft, to be sure that all safety regulations are being followed. In addition, they have a job of keeping all unauthorized craft, fishermen or others, out of restricted waters.

Arriving this month to join the Coast Guard unit are three new officers—Ensign Thomas G. Mumford, Ensign F. W. Crawford, and Ensign C. M. Coats.







Rosita Cobb, Chief of Purchasing



Staff Conference: (seated) Ralph McArdle and Mrs. Cobb; (standing) Seth Wheeler, Isabel Meany and Ed Sheetz.

## Supplies for Benicia Arsenal's Huge Rosita Cobb and Her Staff Purchas

# A Million Dol

and processing materials—both on commercial contracts, and for materials and supplies required in our own processing facilities, such as barrier paper, cartons, standard wooden boxes, etc.

Special procurement is that authorized by the Chief of Ordnance or by other technical services. Items in this group are field service supplies needed overseas.

Only lesser field service items, such as spare parts and accessories, are procured by the Purchasing Office here. In no case are major items under special procurement. This special procurement is an emergency action, taken only when the items are unavailable at Ordnance control points or are in short supply nationally.

The Purchasing and Contracting Office executes many contracts for construction materials and services, based on specifications furnished by the Post Engineers. Both negotiated contracts and the more formal type of advertised contracts are used.

All procurement, without exception, is based on bids and is competitive. The office is particularly careful to invite bids from small business concerns, Mrs. Cobb emphasized, in accordance with national government purchasing policies.

All purchases not of a routine nature, or exceeding \$1000 in value, are reviewed by a Board of Awards before determining the successful bidder. The Board consists of P. Fearson Shortridge, legal officer and chairman; J. W. Anderson, small business representative, and M. L. Peal, Comptroller's Office representative and recorder. Alternate members of the Board are R. F. Mello, deputy comptroller, and H. K. White, deputy post engineer.

In addition, proposed contracts with a value exceeding \$100,000 are studied by a Board of Contract Review, consisting of J. E. Klawin,

**H**ARDLY an item of supply is used at Benicia Arsenal that has not, at some time or other, been purchased by the Purchasing and Contracting Office, whose chief is Rosita Cobb.

"Purchasing," which in the past fiscal year spent up to \$2,500,000 in one month and was averaging an expenditure of a million a month, is gradually returning to a peacetime spending requirement. The trend of procurement at Benicia Arsenal, as measured by the volume of business transacted, is approaching normalcy, Mrs. Cobb pointed out. She added that the first few months of the fiscal year, beginning July 1, are normally a little slow, with the current expenditure average being a little over a half-million dollars per month.

Duties of Mrs. Cobb and her staff of 45 employees include routine and regular procurement, special authorized procurement, and execution of contracts.

Procurement of regular items includes the purchase of materials, supplies, and services for all Arsenal operating divisions. The majority of purchases are for the benefit of Depot Maintenance, Storage, and Depot Facilities Divisions. Purchasing sees that Post Engineers (Depot Facilities) have supplies as needed for their job of maintaining and modifying buildings and grounds. These supplies are often such things as road materials, hardware, plumbing, and lumber.

During the recent expansion of the Arsenal facilities, a great deal of purchasing involved machine tools and equipment.

Present purchasing is, to a great extent, centered on packaging





Roberta Hill and Mildred Miller, procurement clerks in the purchasing and contracting division.

Defense Job Cost a Lot of Money  
ing Specialists Buy at the Rate of

# lars a Month

budget and fiscal officer; V. D. Seago, inspection office, and J. E. Berry, supply assistant. The Board furnishes recommendations to the Arsenal's commanding officer, Col. R. S. Chavin, to assist him in making final determinations.

Purchasing and Contracting Office has two important supporting activities: the Small Business Office, headed by John Anderson, and the Arsenal's legal advisor, P. Fearson Shortridge and his staff. Anderson and his staff make all pre-award inspections of the small business contractor's facilities. Shortridge, as legal advisor, passes on legality of contracts and claims.

Mrs. Cobb and her office personnel purchase all office supplies and equipment needed on the post, except for those supplies that are issued by the Quartermaster Corps.

The Purchasing staff also draws up contracts for repair and rebuild of items of Ordnance issue. During the early part of the calendar year 1951 the Arsenal entered into a program of "letting out" work—that is, commercial rebuild on both major automotive equipment and secondary items.

Some of these secondary items were generators, carburetors, starters, fuel pumps, governors, shock absorbers, springs, radiators, distributors, hydrovacs, clutches, and cylinders. This group of contracts ranged from \$50 to \$65,000.

Major contracts issued under the commercial rebuild program have ranged in value from \$4,854 to \$233,560, since beginning the calendar year.

Requirements for these outside commercial rebuild programs are set up by the office of Executive for Supply. Specifications are promulgated by the Inspection Office. The Purchasing and Contracting

• BENICIA BOMBER



Checking contracts—Lucille De Sando and Isabel Meany.

Office works very closely with the inspectors on the administration of contracts, and with Small Business on the pre-award inspection of the contractor's facilities.

An important asset to the Purchasing Office is the newly organized expediting section, headed by Ralph McArdle. This is a group of "trouble shooters" who follow up on delayed deliveries. They assist the contractor on problems involving deliveries. They straighten out discrepancies in shipments. In addition, they attack and untangle other tie-ups that threaten the smooth flow between purchasing and receiving of supply.

Purchasing maintains an up-to-the-minute file of prospective bidders and on all products and services.

Mrs. Cobb, who has been with the Arsenal since 1935, has worked in procurement for the past 13 years. She has a trained and experienced crew working with her.

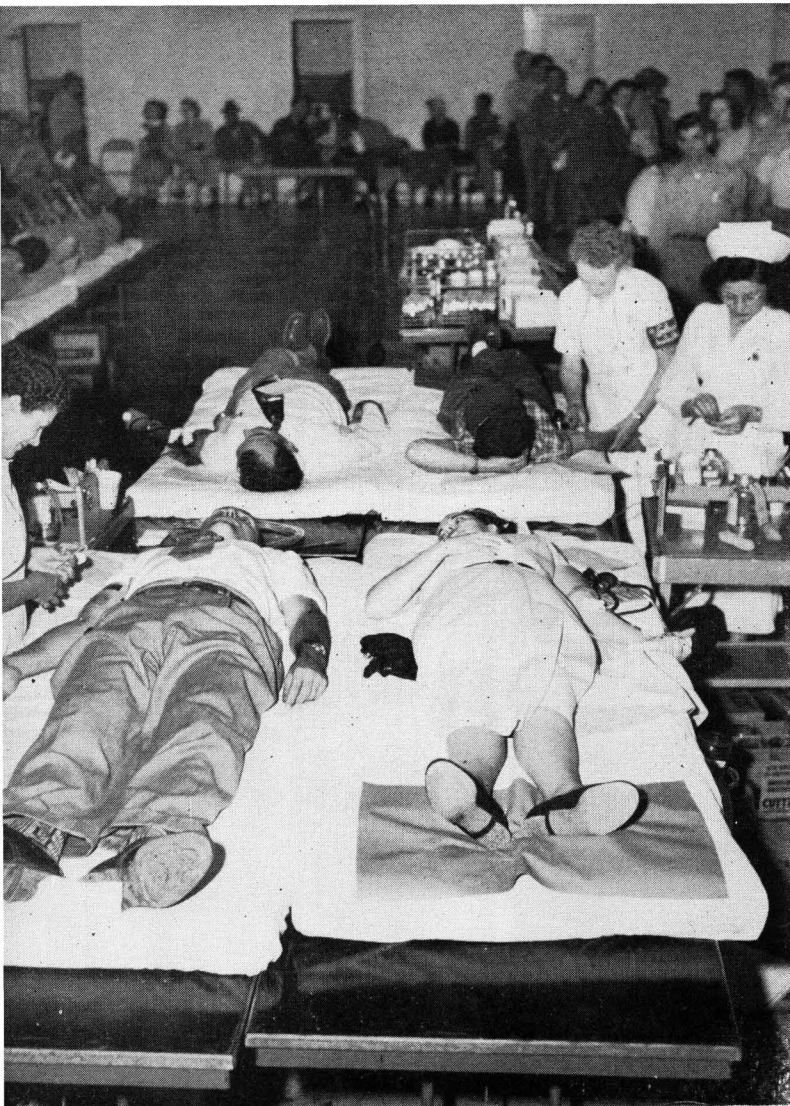
Seth Wheeler, technical advisor, is a veteran of government procurement work. Isabel Meany, chief of procurement, has been with the Purchasing Office for 10 years. McArdle is beginning his tenth year. Ed Sheetz, administrative chief, is new to procurement but has been with the Arsenal since the past war.

Lucille DeSando and Olive Ivie, procurement agents, have served with Mrs. Cobb eight and 10 years respectively.

The Purchasing and Contracting Office "outgrew" cramped quarters in Building 52 and moved to the second floor of Building 47 several months ago. The new location provides adequate space for conducting purchasing operations with a maximum of efficiency. The quarters include a reception room for the numerous bidders and contractors' representatives doing business with Benicia Arsenal.

PAGE SEVEN





As 100 Arsenalites wait to give, the four shown here are in various stages of the process. Front row, left to right, Irwin Memorial Blood Bank volunteer worker, Terry Smith of San Francisco; Melvin Harris, Maintenance administrative office; and Nelda Felton, Benicia Girl Scout leader. Back row, giving blood, are Dale Hamilton of Maintenance administrative office, and Frances Galyn of Leather and Canvas Shop; attending them, Lillian Crowe, volunteer from San Francisco.

# THREE HUNDRED EMPLOYEES DONATE TO BLOOD BANK

"Bring them back alive!" was the thought in the minds of 300 Arsenal employees, who at the end of November gave a pint of blood each for the protectors of our homes on the front—many of whom, wounded, now need protection *from* home!

The group was the largest yet volunteering since the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, in connection with the American Red Cross, has been collecting blood for the Armed Services during the present emergency.

More are needed. Bill Balloun, Arsenal chairman, and Molly Mollenkopf, overall chairman for the community of Benicia, hope to

have over 500 donors for the December "Bank." Those who volunteered in November will not be eligible again until January. This means that a large new group is needed. You can inform your supervisor today—or the day after Christmas—that you will give your pint of blood Friday, December 28. You will not lose work time, and the Arsenal will provide your transportation.

At this season of generous giving, never forget: When you give your blood, you give from the heart!



H. D. Hayes, left, explains the treatment of whole blood for overseas shipment to Benicia Blood Bank chairmen. Hayes accompanies the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank to Benicia each month, handling and refrigerating each pint of blood as it is given. Left to right are Hayes, John D. Hagopian, assistant to the Arsenal chairman; Bill Balloun, Arsenal Bank chairman; and Molly Mollenkopf, volunteer Red Cross worker, who is overall chairman of the local Blood Bank.

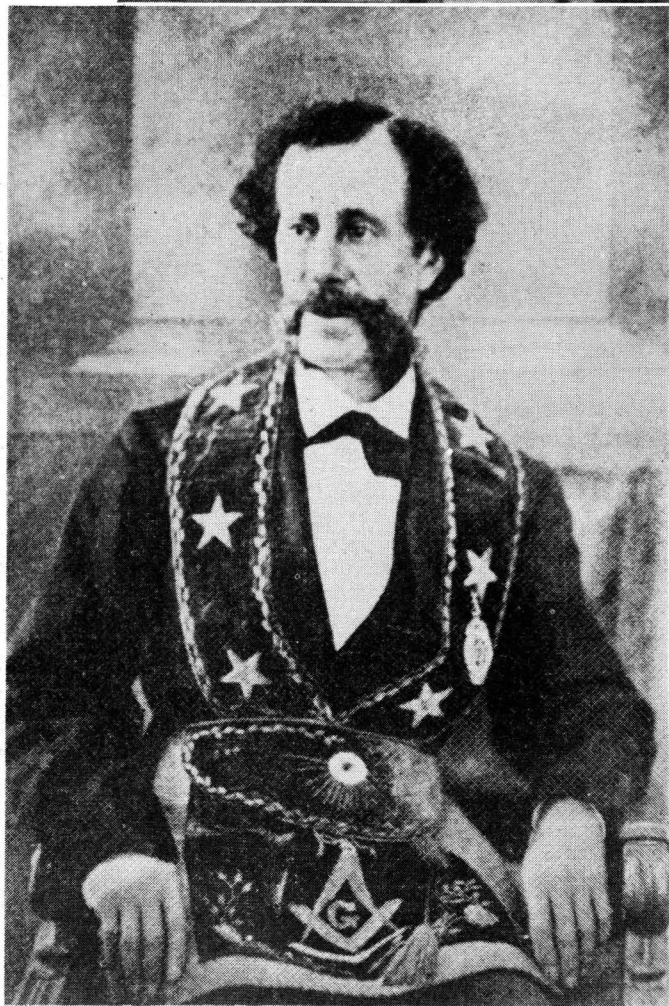
They have given blood and feel fine. The Blood Bank nurses know, however, "that old tired feeling" results from the giving up of their lunch in order to be ready to give blood—and from the giving itself, so they send them to the Red Cross canteen. Drinking fruit juice and eating doughnuts are, left to right, back row, Josephine Rigsby, 91-Annex; Eugene V. Wernitz, liaison representative with the Signal Corps, who is here from Philadelphia; half-hidden, Nelda Felton, Benicia Girl Scout leader; and Chet Wolter, storage. Seated in front, and ready to go back to work, are Royce Littleton of Storage, left, and Kenneth Kamb, Apprentice School, right.





**BENICIA — Site of**

# California's First Masonic Temple



**Benjamin Hyam, First Grand Master**

## "Gold Rush Masons" Helped to Establish Stable Government for California — Early Lodge Officials Rose to Important State Positions

By LeNOIR MILLER, Librarian, Benicia Public Library

ment—municipal, county, and state—would have to be established and placed in honest, competent hands for the survival of society."

However, these "gold-rush Masons" were not the first ones of this fraternal organization to reach California. Those who came first were seafaring men who sailed their vessels from the coast of New England and were engaged in trading on this far Western Coast as early as the forepart of the 1800's. These traders did not organize Lodges here, and it was not until 1848, that the first Masonic Charter was brought to California. It was carried by the Reverend Saschel Woods who arrived here with the Peter Lassen immigration party.

On October 30, 1848, Reverend Woods, as Master, organized Western Star Lodge No. 98, under jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The first meeting was held at Peter Lassen's Rancho Bosquejo, at Benton City.

### *First Meeting*

The first Masonic meeting held in Benicia was on March 6, 1850, and among those present were Benjamin D. Hyam, Master; L. A. Besancon, J. H. Saunders, W. B. Nurse, L. B. Mizner, Alex Riddell, Joseph Colson, Calvin Gillis, and S. Bynum.

The Benicia Lodge was known as a "Moon Lodge." In the '50's and early '60's it was customary among the mountain Lodges to meet on the night "of or preceding full moon, preceding full moon, or of or succeeding full moon." According to the chart of "Moon Dates" Benicia Lodge met on Wednesday evenings, the night of or preceding full moon.

It was in Benicia that the first official Masonic Temple in the State of California was built by the Masonic Lodge. Doctor Robert Semple furnished the lumber for the frame structure which was built at a cost of \$18,000, on a lot donated by Alex Riddell, on West J Street.

Benicia Lodge dedicated its new Temple on December 27, 1850. "A heavily timbered structure, it stood staunch and strong and capable of outlasting many generations of men." "The lower floor," said S. C. Gray, "was occupied as the Court House, County Clerk, and Recorder's office until the State House was built in 1852.

"Previously, in January 1850, at the first session of the State Legislature, held at the Pueblo de San Jose, Benicia was named the county seat of Solano County, and so continued for eight years, when it was succeeded in 1858, by the present county seat, Fairfield."

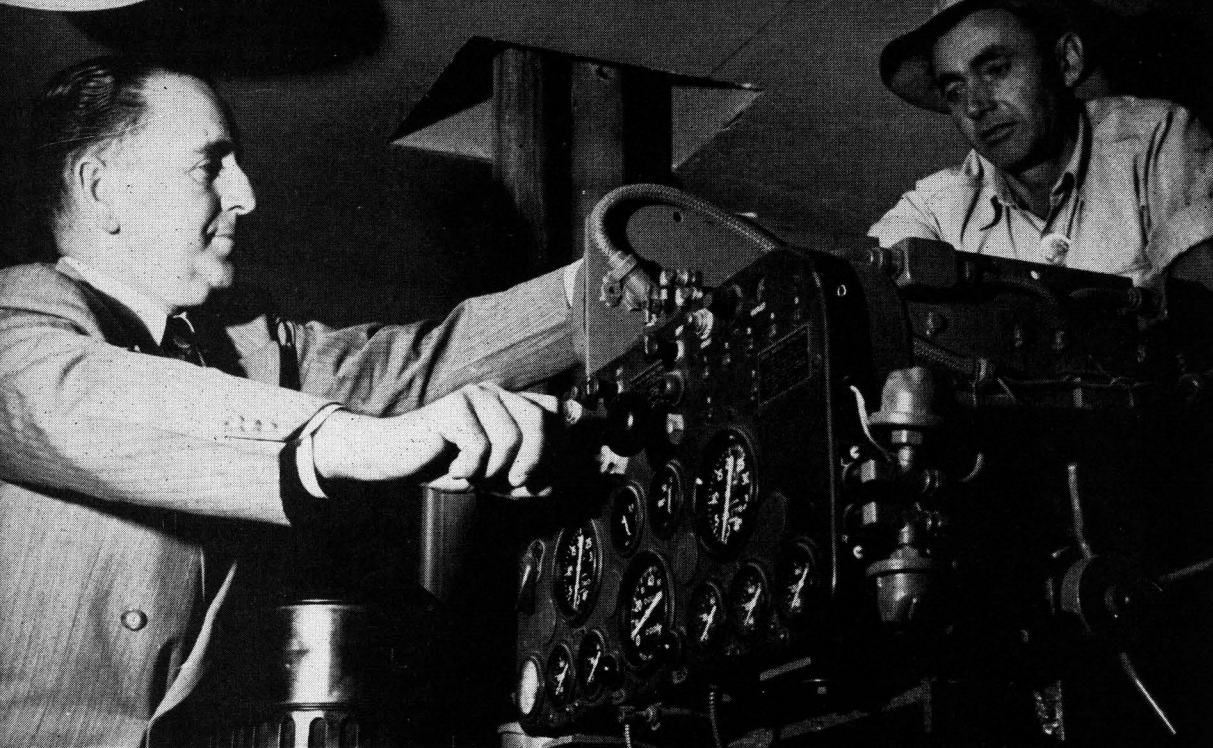
(Turn to Page 15)

**A**T THE beginning of the American conquest of California, the vast inland region north of San Pablo Bay and the Straits of Carquinez was by far more American than Hispanic. A number of the Americans who came early to this state chose to settle in the interior instead of in the coastal regions, while the native Californians made their settlements along the coast.

After the discovery of gold in 1848, practically every able-bodied man both on the coast and in the interior hastened to the gold fields, and according to history, man at that time could be as lawless as he wished—away from home ties and restraining influences he could throw all caution to the "four-winds."

It was with those conditions flourishing that those men of religious and fraternal affiliations knew they would have to take an active part in affairs, and men of Masonic connections knew they should establish their Lodges in this new country. "If it had not been for the sobering influence of a few among them who remembered their religious and fraternal ties 'back home' and sought to renew them here, a whole generation might have been debauched." These men "knew govern-





Henry K. White, Jr., civilian post engineer, turns a lever to warm up a diesel engine in preparation for pumping water into Pine Lake Reservoir from Suisun Bay. In the background is George Fadley, superintendent of pumping plants.

\*

At the controls of the pumping station at Pine Lake Reservoir, George Fadley superintendent of the pumping plants, measures the flow of water from the dam into the Arsenal's dual water system.

↓

# PINE LAKE DAM

## *Gets a Face-Lifting Job*

**W**ORK is underway on the \$269,000 project of raising Benicia Arsenal's Pine Lake Dam, it was announced by Henry K. White, Jr., civilian post engineer. When construction work is completed, in approximately six months, the dam will be raised a total of eight feet to provide an adequate water supply for all post needs, White said.

The dam, which impounds the water of Pine Lake, is located within the Arsenal proper in the area north of military housing and east of the military cemetery. The dam was originally constructed in 1940 by the hydraulic fill method as a Works Progress Administration project.

Pine Lake's present filled capacity is 86,000,000 gallons of water. Upon completion of the rebuild project, capacity will be enlarged to 135,000,000 gallons, enough to insure a constant and adequate supply for all anticipated Arsenal needs.

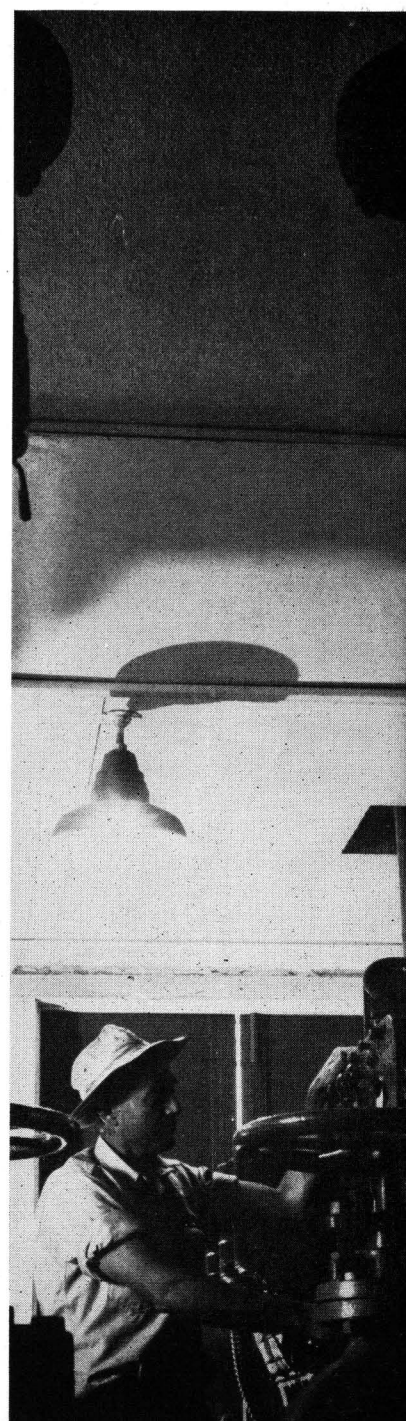
The Arsenal's dual water system — one for human consumption and the other for industrial,

irrigation, and fire protection purposes, is supplied when Pine Lake Reservoir is filled from Suisun Bay at planned periods.

Pumping is done during the season of high runoffs, when drenching rains or melting snow forces a heavy flow of fresh water from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, pushing back the salt water in the Straits of Carquinez.

At present the pumping stations on the water front at Army Point can bring into the reservoir 7000 gallons of water per minute. It is hoped, White said, that ultimately pumping stations will be increased to such an extent that a 20,000 gallon per minute rate can be established.

The pumphouse on the dam, which feeds water into the Arsenal dual system, will also be raised to the new height. A portion of the water is diverted into the filtration plant where it is carefully treated, for purification for human use. Majority of the water used at the Arsenal goes from the dam into the main water system for industrial use.







## *A Message - To Benicia Arsenal Employees*

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This is the season of the year when all hearts turn homeward. Most of us are fortunate to have the warmth of family life about us. It is timely for us to turn our thoughts to our men in the armed services—particularly to those away from their loved ones.

These men are protecting our homes and our valued way of life—wherever they may be stationed on the far-flung frontiers of democracy.

It may be that the only reminder of home some of these men will have during this time is the Benicia Arsenal label on boxes of supplies and equipment. You can see that at times those Benicia Arsenal labels, on boxes of needed material arriving in good shape and on time, might mean even more to our fighting men than a piece of fruitcake.

There are many personal gifts each of us would send to these men—to all of them, if such were possible and practical. What we can not do as individuals, we CAN do as a team.

The finest gift we at Benicia Arsenal can give our men is to keep them well supplied that they may have the greatest possible protection in defense and the best possible equipment for any required action.

You as Arsenal employees are doing a good job—but perhaps you can do more. Surely we can all increase our efforts.

Each of you can put out better and more consistent effort, thus insuring smoothness of operation and greater production.

Skilled craftsmen, trained minds, and experienced leaders—none of you are real producers unless you are putting forth your best effort.

Let us each check our own daily performance—since this is the time for summing up a year about to close as well as a time of anticipation of the new year.

We are not able to send a decorated Christmas tree to each service man who is thinking of his own home at this season. But we can give a little of our own spirit through conscientious effort on our jobs. We can make the initials "B.A." mean a lot to these men.

Let's make this redoubled effort a Christmas gift from our team in the backfield to our team on the frontline.

*RS Chavin*

Colonel, Ordnance Corps  
Commanding



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• **MOBILE X-RAY AT ARSENAL** •



Benefiting from the annual sale of Christmas Seals by the Solano County Tuberculosis Association, Arsenal employees were given chest X-rays recently at the Association's mobile unit. Results of the X-rays will be mailed to each individual. Chinning herself in the requested manner for her "picture" is Elizabeth Brown. Arsenalites waiting in line, left to right, are Dorothy Middleton, Pauline Barber, Cloyd King, and Bill Lundsford. X-ray Technician Helen Reedy operates the unit and keeps the records.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



*Holiday Greetings to All*

When you make that New Year's Resolution please consider **MULLEN MOTOR** for that new car, truck, or maybe a Used Car.

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Merry Christmas  
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• BENICIA BOMBER

## Basketball Prospects Bright For Benicia Bombers



Benicia Arsenal Bomber A's continue their winning streak, both in Vallejo City League and outside games. Top row, left to right, are Eldridge McDowell, James McElvane, Clarence Gonsalves, William Mason, and Ernie Strickland. Front row, left to right, are Pat Dion, Jim Whalen, Coach Melvin Mello, Bob Johnson, Jack Drindville, and Assistant Coach Charles Brown.

\*



Players on Benicia Arsenal Bomber "B" basketball squad pose for their picture following a game. Top row, left to right, are Norman Coleman, Samuel Cravens, Robert Bass, Gene Curry, and Al Pabinguit. Lower, left to right, are Robert Turner, Mickey Craig, Coach Melvin Mello, Chuck Chase, Tommy Tidwell, and Assistant Coach Charles Brown. Not present for the picture were team members Bill Vogel and Jack Rahill.

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Leave Benicia		Leave Martinez	
6:10	3:40	6:30	4:00
7:00	4:20	7:20	4:40
7:40	5:00	8:00	5:20
8:20	5:40	8:40	6:00
9:00	6:20	9:20	6:40
9:40	7:00	10:00	7:20
10:20	7:40	10:40	8:00
11:00	8:20	11:20	8:40
11:40	9:00	12:00	9:20
12:20	9:40	12:40	10:00
1:00	10:20	1:20	10:40
1:40	11:00	2:00	11:20
2:20	11:40	2:40	12:00
3:00		3:20	

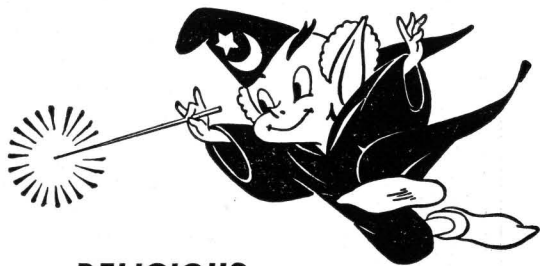
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PAGE THIRTEEN



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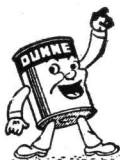
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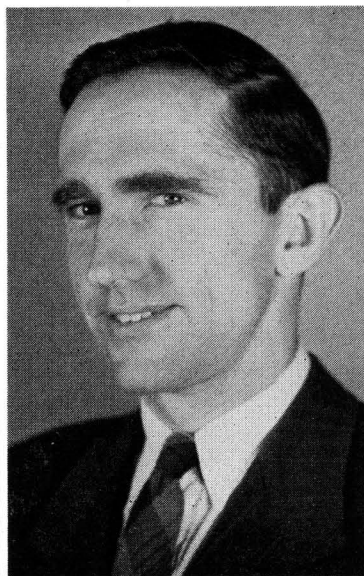
HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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## Arsenal Man Gets Perfect Score



Russell T. Tuttle, Benicia Arsenal salary and wage analyst trainee, came up with two perfect test scores upon completion of a recent training course given by the Department of the Army for salary and wage analysts. This establishes Tuttle as a "brain" of sorts, since in months of conducting similar schools in the Sixth Army area, no student had yet turned in one perfect test paper, much less two.

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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MARTINEZ

## Masonic Temple

(Continued from Page 9)

### Chaplain's Saddle Stolen

From the experiences of two early day Masons of our fair city, we learn that thieves were plying their unlawful trade then. Reverend Sylvester Woodbridge, pastor of the first Protestant church in California, (it was in Benicia), was the Lodge Chaplain, and on a certain day while he was out riding looking for a location suitable for a Masonic cemetery, he stopped at the Temple, tying his horse to a nearby hitching post while he stepped inside. When he came out to resume his riding he discovered the loss of his saddle, but snice it occurred while he was serving the Lodge, the members "voted \$25.00 to buy him a new one."

Lt. George H. Derby ran the following advertisement in the June 14, 1951, issue of the California Gazette, published in Benicia:

\$50 Reward—Whereas a deserter . . . undergoing sentence at Benicia Barracks has made his escape and on the 9th of June stole my horse . . . The horse was a large grey gelding, marked on the left hip U. S. 2 D.

Geo. H. Derby, Lieut.  
U. S. Topographical  
Engineers.

The Benicia Lodge continued to grow and on August 18, 1887, Grand Lodge convened in this city, where they laid the cornerstone for their new brick building at First and West J Streets. The first meeting held in the new building was on March 10, 1888.

Some of the early day Benicia Masons who became prominent in California history were Benjamin D. Hyam, Doctor Robert Semple, Lt. George H. Derby, L. B. Mizner, and Lt. George Stoneman.

### Hyam First Grand Master

Mr. Hyam, the first Master of Benicia Lodge No. 5, F. & A. M., was born in England, March 1, 1813. In his youth he went to Jamaica, where he worked as a clerk on a plantation. In 1848, he was in Mexico, where he became a Mason. He rose rapidly in California Masonic circles and was appointed secretary of the convention that organized Grand Lodge in 1850. He soon was Senior Grand Deacon, and in 1851 he was Deputy Grand Master. In 1852, he became Grand Master. He had the reputatin of having a superior knowledge of Masonic law. Mr. Hyam died in Washing-

ton, D. C., July 11, 1893, and was buried in the Congressional Cemetery.

Dr. Robert B. Semple, founder of Benicia, was born in Kentucky on February 3, 1806. He studied dentistry and law and practiced both professions for a number of years. In 1845, he arrived in California, and in 1847 he founded Benicia. He was a charter treasurer of Benicia Lodge. Semple was elected president of the California Constitutional Convention where he presided with dignity and understanding. He was respected and admired by every delegate there. He possessed a natural eloquence and many people considered him one of the most brilliant speakers of his time. Doctor Semple moved from Benicia to Colusa County where he died on October 25, 1854.

Lt. George H. Derby, who was stationed at Benicia Barracks as a topographical engineer, was born in Massachusetts in 1823. He was a West Point graduate and had a distinguished military career under Gen. Winfield Scott in Mexico. Derby was a Mason when he arrived in Benicia. He was a great humorist, and did much writing under the pseudonyms of Squibob, and John Phoenix.

Lt. George Stoneman became a Mason while stationed at Benicia Barracks. He also was a West Point graduate. He rose to Brigadier General of United States Volunteers and Chief of Cavalry, and held other important military jobs until his retirement in 1871. After holding various important State positions he was elected Governor of California in 1882. Mr. Stoneman died in Buffalo, New York, in 1894.

L. B. Mizner was the first Junior Warden of Benicia Lodge. In 1852 he was appointed Collector of the Port of Benicia, and later he became private secretary to Governor Bigler. He was a member of the State Legislature, and also held other important positions such as Minister to Guatemala and other Central American countries. He died in Benicia December 9, 1893.

More than one hundred years have passed since a group of prominent Benicians erected California's first Masonic Temple which still stands at the original location. Various organizations have owned, and used the old frame building since the new Temple was built, but in January, 1950, Benicia Lodge once again called it their own and have now preserved it for a Masonic Shrine.

On December 17, 1950, in front of the building on a concrete

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

block an historical plaque was placed by the Historic Landmark Committee of Native Sons of the Golden West, and Benicia Parlor No. 89, Native Sons of the Golden West, and Native Daughters of the Golden West, Benicia Parlor No. 287.

NOTICE—The author gives credit to Mr. Leon O. Whitsell, Past Grand Master and Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic History, for permission granted her to use material and pictures from "ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN CALIFORNIA," published by Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of California.

*Happy Holidays  
from*

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Day or Night

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**Twenty-two Employees Join Select Circle  
Of Those Who Have "Cashed In"  
On Workable Suggestions**



Is there a faster, easier, or safer way to do your job?  
We all have, probably, at one time, thought of some improvement possible in our work. Those who take the time to send in these beneficial suggestions are the ones who can verify the slogan, "It Pays to Suggest."

Among recent award winners is Madeline Scalzo of 2224 Crest Avenue, Martinez, who received a \$50 award for her suggestion of a faster method of identifying boxes in loose issue branch of Storage.

Newton L. Matthews, Apt. 324, Woodbridge Drive, Benicia, designed a safety device for Dewalt saws and won \$25. Matthews is employed at the carpenter shop of Depot Facilities Division.

A puller for the freewheel unit in the torque converter brought a \$10 award to Glen B. Groves of combat vehicle in Maintenance. Groves lives in Suisun.

Catherine McArdle, 1006 Kentucky, Vallejo, was the recipient of a \$20 award for her development of a method of numbering conveyors in the packing section of Building 99. By using her suggestion, the file clerk can immediately spot the exact location of a ticket being worked, thus considerably improving efficiency.

James E. Trimble, who lives at 914 West Sixth in Benicia, was voted a \$20 award by the Efficiency Awards Committee for designing a cap removal wrench for 60 mm and 81 mm mortars, to be used in artillery branch of Maintenance. The wrench is especially useful since it does not mar or damage the material in any way.

For his plan for a cabinet for storing welding rods, Ralph R. Rice, 537 Hood, Vallejo, won \$10.

Submitting suggestions has really paid off for Felix Leskiewicz, small arms branch employee who lives at 60 Grant Circle, Benicia. This time it was to the tune of \$85 for his suggested use of a longer stud for the extractor spring on the 1917A1 30 caliber machine gun. It is now being used in other Ordnance installations.

For designing and manufacturing a new alignment tool to be used in service shops by welders and sheet-metal workers, Edward F. Breakey of 1124 Sutter, Vallejo, was awarded \$10.

(Continued on Page 17)

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BENICIA

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## Cash Awards

(Continued from Page 16)

Down in vehicle assembly overhaul branch of Maintenance, Ralph A. Newman, who resides in Benicia, designed a wrench or holder for universal joint yokes and won \$15 for his idea.

Another \$10 safety award went to Bert McGuirk, also from vehicle assembly, for his suggestion which resulted in changing the location of the electric toggle switch in the dynamometer test room. McGuirk lives at 900 Elane Way in Benicia.

For the adoption of his suggestion concerning a chuck for holding Chevrolet engine valve lifters for polishing and cleaning, Simon Bach, an engine rebuild employee, 1844 Alabama in Vallejo, was awarded \$13.50.

Charles R. Langenberg of 505 Benicia Road, Vallejo, was awarded \$20 for his suggestion on testing welder and generators before installing gas engines. He is employed in the service shops branch of Maintenance.

Kenneth G. Helling of Route 1, Martinez, was the winner of \$87.50 for his invention of a device used for filing the edges of rifles in the small arms branch of Maintenance.

For suggesting the addition of safety rails to outside steps, Samuel Senseney of 544 West, Pittsburg, was awarded \$10. Senseney is with Post Engineers.

Robert E. Haagensen of 43 A Waterman Park, Fairfield, was awarded \$30 for his invention of a jig for assembling spring units for GMC open cabs. He works in leather and canvas branch, Maintenance.

For his suggestion of safety ladders constructed of metal for use on wharves, Jonas M. Miles, Inspection Office, received a \$12 award with an additional \$10 safety award. Miles lives at 30 Grant Circle, Benicia.

Max Domingo of 416 Benicia Road, Vallejo, and William Wise of 442 Flosden, Apt. 120, Vallejo, were joint recipients of a \$41.25 award for their idea on cleaning paint hoses in the cleaning and painting branch.

Houston J. Campbell of 1049 57th, Oakland, was the winner of a \$10 award for suggesting a shield for oilpan testers of tanks in engine rebuild.

Another award in engine rebuild branch went to James F.

(Continued on Page 20)



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## Inspection Office News

By ANNA NUNN

Birthdays were celebrated recently by Frances Swim, administrative branch, Idell Ludden, Inspection Office, and Harold Horgan, General Supply.

Jeanne Casten has left us to join her husband, who is serving with the U. S. A. F. in England. Jeanne will spend a week with her mother in Indiana. From there she will journey to New York and book passage on the Queen Mary. Good luck, Jeanne.

Warren Schmitt and Vincent Gallagher transferred recently to take positions at the San Francisco Ordnance District. Good luck, boys.

Several of our inspectors have been out of town recently on government business. Harris Kilby, Dean Miller, and Don Barlow spent several days in Barstow, while Carl Hewitt and Sam Watson were at Camp Pendleton.

Buster Byerrum of Small Arms Inspection is the proud father of a new baby girl. Congratulations, Buster.

Recently Dorothy Harty and this reporter visited San Francisco, for the benefit of their children, who enjoyed seeing Duncan Renaldo, "The Cisco Kid."

A delightful evening was spent recently when the Dean Millers entertained at their Benicia home the Messers. and Mesdames Herschal Forbes, Sr., Virgel Seago, Dan Masterson, Harris Kilby, and George Seward.

Clarence Knittle is a new addition to the administrative branch. She is a transfer from the office of the chief of general purpose vehicle. Hope you will like us, Marion.

## ARMY DOCUMENT PERSONALS

By LILLIAN LAFONTAINE

Our deepest sympathy is offered to Esther Mollenkopf of the recent death of her husband, Bill. While home on military leave, he was duck hunting near Rio Vista, and was struck by lightning. They have two sons, Bobby, five; and Roger, three.

Ev Bailey is planning to spend Christmas at her husband's mother's home in Bakersfield.

Loretta Hansen attend the wedding of her younger brother, Jim Donahue, at Redwood City. A Marine himself, Jim married Patricia Silver, of the Women's Marine Corps.

Joe Borges had a dinner date at the exclusive El Nido Rancho in Lafayette with a special guest — Beebe, his wife. It was a special occasion for the Borges . . . their tenth anniversary.

Georgina Rice, formerly of this office, flew to San Diego to meet her husband, Ronald, who has been in Korea for the past year. He will be discharged in February. We are very happy for them.

Christmas is the nicest time of the year, with the lovely carols, the bright colored trees, and the twinkling eyes and smiling faces of all. The hustle and bustle of buying presents, sending cards, and the so-important Santa Claus. By the time you read this, Christmas will almost be here. Your shopping will be finished, your tree decorated brightly—and you may be collapsed in a corner. Before that happens, however, I want to wish you and yours the brightest and merriest Christmas you ever had, and may all your dreams and wishes come true.

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78 Years of  
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## PLANNING NOTES FROM PEMCO

By NANCY LEONARD

Ralph Wood, chief of production control branch, spent a week at Red River Arsenal, Texas, last month on official business. Jeff Noyes, chief, engineering branch, recently made an official business trip to depots at Rock Island, Erie and Rossford.

Pfc. Donald W. Ruehmann has been out pheasant hunting with no luck. (Not an official business trip.)

New members of the production control branch are J. E. Hollander, formerly of machine tool, and J. H. Rogers, formerly of combat vehicle.

Dorothy Marino, production control, and family have moved into their new home in El Camino Village. More room, Dorothy?

Ed Warren, production control, enjoyed a recent two-week vacation. Guess his pheasants (he got two) were too much for him.

Dorothy Lemas, material control, started an extended leave on November 30. Good luck, Dorothy.

Harold Gregson, material control, returned recently from a three-week vacation spent, shivering, in Oklahoma.

Francis Larson took a week vacation last month—nothing to report—just enjoyed his rest.

John Powers, chief of PEMCO, made an official trip to Raritan for eight days.

A recent weekend was spent in Phoenix, Arizona, by Wauneta Lacey and family. Wauneta is in the material control branch.

Pfc. Stan Joy and wife the former Mary Lou Lewis) have returned from their honeymoon and are living in quarters on the post.

Lieutenant Baker and bride (the former Lillian Hassett) are back from their honeymoon and are making their home in Vallejo.

Happy birthdays for last month to Henry Van Goey and Marguerite Cox, both of engineering branch.

Dennis Johnston and family motored to Roseburg, Oregon, for the Thanksgiving holiday. He says the sun was shining there. (The weather man must have slipped.)

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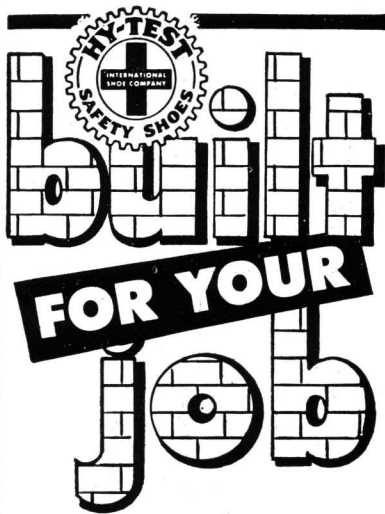
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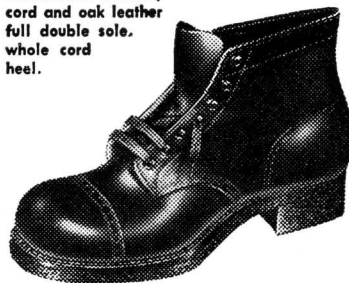
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## News Items From STORAGE PACKERS

By Betty Couch

John Boatman is passing out cigars. It's a girl, and the little Miss has been named Pamela Myren.

Melvin Thompson and family spent the Thanksgiving holidays with Mrs. Thompson's parents.

Chester Hardeman, who has spent some time in the hospital, has not recovered sufficiently to return home. Hurry back to work, Chester.

Clarence McMillan, son of your reporter, left recently for Castle Air Base to start his training in the Air Force. He was formerly employed as a parts chaser for the fork shop.

Tony Laguna has returned from a 30-day vacation in the East and South. He and Mrs. Laguna spent some time in the cities of New York, New Orleans, and Los Angeles. Returning with them for a visit, from Los Angeles, were two nieces, Mildred and Clara Foster.

## Cash Awards

(Continued from Page 17)

Smeltzer of 2615-B Sonoma, Vallejo, who won \$10 for suggesting a guard for boring bar in engine overhaul.

Still another lucky winner in engine rebuild is John H. Rogers of 712 First, Crockett, who won \$12.50 for suggesting a traveling engine hoist for the removal of oil pans.

Villars A. Autem, 143 Fairmont, Vallejo, was awarded \$10 for his idea of a portable welding shield to be used in service shops branch of Maintenance.

Margaret Engelhardt of 183 Pacific Circle, Napa, was awarded \$20 for suggesting the salvaging of scrap paper to be used for making shipping tickets in bulk issue branch of Storage.

Ideas always pay off. This statement is particularly true if you think about how you can improve your own job — then use your head! Use the suggestion box!

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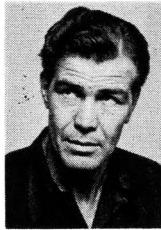
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## Small Arms Shots

By AL GLOBE



The August Colemans were blessed by a baby boy, born at 3 a. m., November 19, weighing in at 5½ pounds. Coleman is a Small Arms repairman.

Helen Kirkwood of M-1 assembly graduated recently from the East Bay school of practical nursing, in a class of 300.

We're glad to see Marie Bredshaw back with us. She was off for six weeks — a period that included surgery in a San Francisco hospital.

Our new fork lift operaotr is Dorothy L. Clifton, who was transferred to us from Building 36. Another transferee is Wandeen Byron, from our own swing shift.

Joe Morse, our corker, spent his Thanksgiving day at Fresno with his daughter, Millian.

Daniel Y. Calhoun of parkerizing room, swing shift, became the proud and happy owner of a 1951 Mercury—Umm, how about a ride, Dan?

A happy grandma was Anna M. Johnson of disassembly section, swing shift, when her daughter and son-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. LeRoy Savoie and family came recently from Chicago for a visit. Dr. Savoie recently graduated from school in Chicago. Mrs. Savoie, born in Benicia, is a graduate of University of California at Berkeley.

Lem Hardeman of Rifle Inspection, hopes to have his friend, Champ Joe Louis, stop in Benicia on his return from his tour with the troops in Korea. He is hoping that an exhibition match can be arranged locally.

Two new faces in our rifle assembly line belong to Dorothy Rhone and Flosie Taylor who were transferred from the swing shift. They are glad to be getting up with the birds.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year TO ALL OF YOU from Small Arms Shop.

## Leather & Canvas Shop News

By ROSALIE BUTLER

Tela Forrest enjoyed the company of Mrs. Don Weir of Redwood, California, as a house guest for several days.

Emily and George Kallios spent a day in San Francisco—the Lewis Baxters in Sacramento—and Odessa Tompson Christmas shopping in the Bay Area for the biggest Christmas stocking she can find. Wonder what she wants to fill it?

Dink Cox and family dined with the Dean Gibsons recently.

Dink says, "The stuffed bologna was delicious."

Jack Kent and his gal finally took off for Reno—and now they are Mr. and Mrs.

Goldie Logan's daughter, Norma Rysher, and her small son have been visiting from Texas. They plan on making their home here again.

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a New Year full of prosperity, love, and peace.

## "155" TIRE JOCKEYS

By ALICE STEWART

Our branch went over the top for the Community Chest Drive, 100% and some to spare. Congratulations boys, for the good job.

John Fred, of this branch, just got back from three weeks of leave. He went hunting in Louisiana. He had a nice time hunting ducks. There was a sign that said "no hunting" and all the ducks swam around the sign. More fun!!!

Foreman Lansdowne and Tire Inspector Calvert, have been called to Washington, D. C. this month. Calvert has never been in an airplane so if you see a green streak on the road its Calvert and Lansdowne with his Chevrolet, getting in practice.

Well, it won't be long now before I get a new "rat" fur coat. We've caught enough to cover the buttons anyway. (Three of 'em.)

Assistant Foreman Zeis spent an exhausting week on annual leave, housekeeping, while his wife worked.

Two girls have been added to the "Stork Club" by Mr. and Mrs. John Fred and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Garibaldi.

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Frank Andreoff's vocabulary is getting a rest. He had his tonsils removed.

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## Storage Flashes

### From Bulk Issue

By HAZEL PANNELL

St. Basil's Church was the setting for the christening of Jerome Felix, aged 21 months, and Agnes Elizabeth, aged three months, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Taylor (John is in Condition 7 Unit). Rev. Father William Knapp officiated at the ceremony. Godparents for the two babies were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Skillman.

According to our scouts the pheasant season is excellent, duck and geese hunting is wonderful, and hunting in general is super-colossal. Of course, it depends on which scout is spouting. John Borneman says its wonderful for ducks and geese, Mike Bennett and Cookie are all for pheasants, and Chet Wolter just ain't talkin'. Wonder why?

That boy, Ray Bowland, must have walked under a ladder. He started hunting in the wee sma' hours Saturday morning before Thanksgiving, and all he could tangle with was one of those critters known as "driving drunks." Needless to say he came off second-best.

Landed Gentry Dept.—Newest property owner is Tex Doshier. Goin' back to the soil kids, in the w-i-d-e open spaces. Six miles from Vallejo that is.

Dottie Gibbert is still buildin' on her "estate." Her final goal is a swimmin' hole in the back yard.

Then she will just relax and take things easy.

Mae Callihan is back on the job after a sick spell. Good to have her back. Gorgeous Gertie DeCius, who was helping out while Mae was off, is back in her own office in Condition 7 again.

### Moving Section

The office of Area One was moved, willy-nilly, all of a sudden. Alice Baer and Ollie Silva were evicted from their headquarters, then and there. They are now to be found in the Area Two office. The boys down there were kind enough to take them in and give them shelter.

Other moves are in the making, so don't be surprised when folks just aren't where you thought they'd be.

Aunt Boo says: Some folks are plain nosey; some folks is jist interested; but nosey er intersted, most folks is neighborly iffen ya jist give 'em a chancet.

More Hunters—Bldg. 68, A. J. Alameda and A. Karcher are out after pheasants, too. While they are gone, Aggie, Corkie, and James are keeping the ball rolling.

Looks like the wet weather is with us—but Aunt Boo says we won't melt—bein' nuther sugar ner salt.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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## Hashing It Over With the Post Restaurant

By Evelyn Seibert



Christmas Greetings from the  
Post Restaurant Gang.

Dorothy Mitchell, formerly of Canteen 49, and Carol Correia, Sales Store, were co-hostesses recently at a pink and blue shower for Virginia LaMaumauix. Virginia managed the Sales Store for several years and recently has managed the Little Shoe Store at Quarters 37. The shower was held in the Mitchell home. Top prize in the appropriate games played was won by Lurene McKeown, with Opal Geary taking consolation.

Violet Warmack, having recovered from her serious injuries sustained in an automobile accident is back at work again. Violet spent several months recuperating in Letterman General in San Francisco. Glad she is with us again.

Marie Bortisser, Canteen 47, entertained her son recently on his furlough from his Texas station. Marie states that with her son's friends, her own friends, and a new television set, there has been hardly enough room to move around the house.

Edward Weber of the delivery staff took John Morgeson's place recently while John vacationed in Texas. Eddie was glad to have John return, as the task of overseeing the deliveries is not an easy one.

Jo Shaw, Canteen 71, is convalescing in Stanford Lane Hospital after having a serious operation. Jo wrote us recently stating she is getting along very well.

Jack Schnack is a busy man these days getting the remodeling of the Cafeteria under way. The Cafeteria will look very nice when the work is finished. It is sup-

posed to be completed around Christmas time.

Two new gals have been added to the Cafeteria staff. Eunice Visich and Pauline Findley, together with their families, live in Vallejo.

Valeria Daniels of the Cafeteria staff and her family spent Thanksgiving with relatives in Los Angeles. All had a fine time.

Besides all of A. A. Accomando's other duties recently he had two other jobs—on one occasion he served spaghetti in Canteen 91 during the rush, and on another day when the Cafeteria was closed he was delivery boy. He was rushing around getting sandwiches to the canteens during a noon rush. It is rumored that he and his two sons are going fishing one of these days. We will have to see it to believe it.

Your reporter entertained 23 guests Thanksgiving from various parts of the state and Oregon. With all the people around, we thought we were back in the cafeteria.

Little Evelyn Tucker has had her share of misfortune lately. While she was off ill with the flu, her little son fell and broke his leg. We hope things will be better for that nice family in the future.

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## **DEPOT PROPERTY BRANCH ITEMS**

By **PHYLLIS WILLIAMS and  
DOLORES ANGELO**

Nadine Young is all aflutter over a telegram received concerning the Christmas holiday and a certain young man who will be coming home. A new dress is definitely on her Christmas list. Happy holiday, Nadine.

Bea Wiltsie, husband Fred, and Mr. and Mrs. Van Winter of Vallejo celebrated Fred's birthday dining at Rickey's in San Francisco. The rest of the evening was spent taking in a few sights.

Depot Property had two birthdays in November, Luella Pechnik and Lucille Mason. Both girls were surprised with birthday cakes and candy.

Helyne Murphy and daughter are anxiously awaiting the return of Mr. Murphy to be with them at Christmas. He is in the Air Corps and has been away from home for several months.

The Captain of Depot Property Bowling Team, Bea Wiltsie, reports that our team is not exactly "on top," but nevertheless they are doing fine and having a lot of fun.

Henrietta Volmer and husband are planning to spend Christmas with relatives in Visalia.

Sorina Pederson has been quite interested in typewriters lately. At least once a day she asks if our typewriters are working OK. Could it be she is just being helpful?

Bea Wiltsie placed four of her paintings, both water colors and oil, on display in the recent local Women's Club Art and Hobby Show.

Ellen Airoidi had a nice time celebrating her anniversary in San Francisco.

Helyne Murphy and Ellen Airoidi are busy every Thursday night sewing "little things," (doll clothes), so they are telling us?

Lillian Tourte's son, Larry, was quite upset when he noticed Lillian was also crocheting quite a few "little things" lately. He was relieved when he was told that they, too, were only doll clothes for Christmas.

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• BENICIA BOMBER





The Men Who Wear This Emblem  
Are Trying to Take "Injury Out of  
Industry"—to Make Your Job Safe.  
They're Your —

## Safety Engineers

By B. R. TOLLE

Benicia Arsenal Safety Director

Perhaps you have noticed the above badge decorating the shirt or blouse of a worker in your department, here at Benicia Arsenal. Perhaps one of them has given you an idea of how to do your job more safely. You may have noticed your safety committeeman pointing out to the foreman a feature of your department which could produce an accident.



B. R. Tolle

The duty of a safety committee member is to protect fellow workers from injury and avoid damage to Arsenal property. In doing this job 10 items are foremost. They are:

1. To assist the supervisor and safety director to carry out the Arsenal safety program.
2. To be alert at all times to spot unsafe plant conditions and unsafe work practices.
3. To size up the job performance of all workers and warn them of unsafe practices.
4. To assist new employees and transferees to form safe operating practices.
5. To know the hazards of general plant operations such as grinding or chipping, use and care of hand tools, proper methods of lifting, proper housekeeping methods, etc.
6. To insure the use of proper protective equipment for the job at hand such as goggles, respirators, rubber gloves, rubber aprons, rubber boots, face shields, etc.
7. To recognize near accidents and help to correct the conditions which but for luck would have resulted in serious injury.

8. To encourage workers to obtain first aid to combat infections.

9. To assist supervisors to prevent careless or reckless operation of mechanical handling equipment.

10. To assist supervisors to enforce the strict rules against all forms of horseplay and misuse of materials.

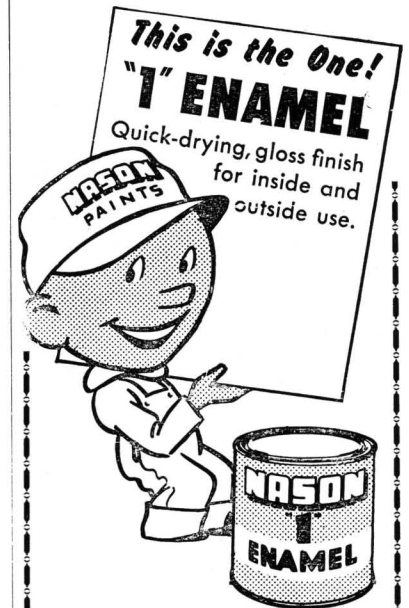
Safety committee members are appointed on the basis of job knowledge and observance of safe practices. For this duty they receive no additional pay but only the satisfaction of knowing they are in the front line of the fight to make Benicia Arsenal the safest possible place in which to work.

Unfortunately, the efforts of committee members are sometimes resented and misunderstood by the very persons they are trying to protect—their fellow employees at Benicia Arsenal.

Many years ago when factories were splashed with the blood of unprotected workers, a man by the name of Juhnke outlined the objective of accident prevention which today inspires and guides your safety committee members:

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## POST ENGINEERS BRIEFS

By  
ELLENOR  
NODSON



"Turkey and Trimmings" were enjoyed by most of Depot Facilities personnel either at home or with relatives. Mr. and Mrs. A. Danielli motored to Oakland for the family dinner; Bob and Lois Converse to Corning; John and Hope Twomey to Vacaville; Ellenor Nodson and daughters to Canyon near Orinda; Marie Davis and husband to Berkeley and Norman Coleman to Los Angeles. Helen Fisk enjoyed her first Thanksgiving dinner since 1939 in the States as she has resided in the Panama Canal Zone from 1939 until coming to Benicia Arsenal this year.

Vera Wolford had a real Thanksgiving with her husband at her home in the mountains above Placerville with snow several feet deep to lend holiday color.

The C. J. Curtis and Elliott Ahlstrom families spent the day enjoying dinner and visiting at the Robert McQuivey home in Walnut Creek. Mr. McQuivey is employed in storage division.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Weaver enjoyed their first Thanksgiving dinner in their new home recently completed in Crockett.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Keck recently enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Keck's sister, Julia Francis, who came all the way from Alaska.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Galbreath not only enjoyed the holiday with their two daughters, but to make a good day better there were six grandchildren visiting them from Marysville and Benicia.

Carl Stover of the engineering section "killed the proverbial two birds with one stone" by visiting friends at Redding and Shasta, and at the same time giving that new Nash a trial run.

Joyce Kuehl of depot facilities has recently returned from a month's vacation spent with her husband at Yosemite and Lake Tahoe. Joyce's husband, Gale R. Kuehl, returned from Korea with the last rotation group.

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Post Engineer Christmas party was held at the Napa Nee on December 15. June Brazier and Sparky Davis handled the details.

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• BENICIA BOMBER

## Grass Clippings

By E. A. Hall

Merry Christmas! There are many ways in which to say it. We like to say ours by making them —with decorations. The list of possibilities from which to choose an idea would more than fill the largest Christmas stocking.

Evergreen branches, a cone here and there, a golden bell—add a bit of red ribbon, and you'll have a cheerful spray for the front door. A wreath of red-wood boughs will do as well—and give it a bow tie of red oilcloth. Good ideas come with the use of large pine cones in clusters. Use the paint pot. Tip the cones with silver, blue, orange, or red.

It's the berries, too! Cut some toyon, cotoneaster, and pyracantha branches. These red and orange berried shrubs are local, plentiful, and ready to use. Govern your use by the size, color, and density of the berry, the leaf, and the habit of spread. The pyracanthus have thorns and good berry clusters. Cotoneasters have their berries more spaced along the slender branches. The Toyons have large leaves and clusters of berries.

There is mistletoe. We used to gather it from out around Lake Herman. I do not think it of too much value for decorations. There are those who enjoy the spirit it gives.

Poinsettias, cyclamen, and Christmas peppers are among the potted seasonal plants to be had now. Poinsettias grow out of doors in a very well sheltered location here. Full sun. Plants in pots on the market are not unreasonably priced. There are white, pink, orange, and even green poinsettias. I prefer the single or double red varieties.

Make up wall hangings of greens and berries. There are so many new things to invite attention at store counters. Add a twig, a bit of holly, or something from the flower garden.

Your personal feeling of Christmas will radiate from your efforts.

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## Notes from Civilian Personnel



By JEAN DAVIS

Since your tardy columnist prepared her last report, Personnel Office has grown bigger and BIGGER and BIGGER! We now claim the red heads and blondes from the Bond Office. Pat, I.O., Elsie, Joy, Arlene and Louise, well known to everyone, are members of our office now as is Dorothy Sawyer from Intelligence & Security Office. Calvin Johnson from Red River Arsenal and Ralph Eggertsen from Camp Roberts are our new classification and wage analysts. The new administrative branch clerks are "Liz" Swisher, Marcia Torjesen and Dorothy Capps. We sincerely welcome all the newcomers and hope they won't find things too crowded for comfort.

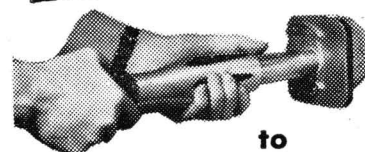
Your columnist happily entertained some long-lost Navy friends over the Thanksgiving holidays. Lt. Jim Boulware of Denver, Colorado, brought wife Carol, and son, Jackie, for a very pleasant visit. Lt. Boulware has been ordered to the Valley Forge "wherever it may be."

Marvel McConnell entertained company from Oregon, but circumstances prevented celebrating Thanksgiving on the 22nd. She cooked her turkey on the Monday following. I wondered why her turkey sandwiches lasted longer than mine did.

Victor Clark has been attending conferences in Washington, and did we miss him! Luckily, Jack Kirigin arrived in the nick of time to keep things going for him. Jack had also been in Washington attending the Civilian Personnel Officers' School. En route home, Jack visited relatives in New York and then flew to Portland, Ore., to see his mother and dad. After a three-year absence from home, Jack was given a royal welcome with a big turkey dinner attended by 28 relatives all assembled to greet him. Lucky boy says altogether he had three big dinners by the time he finally got home.

Civilian Personnel is pleased to note the big increase in blood donor volunteers in our office.

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• BENICIA BOMBER



# Around the Post

WITH MILITARY PERSONNEL

By Pvt. Walter J. Kohler

## Stanley R. Joy

Layouts for processing and packaging lines are the main occupation of Pvt. Stanley Joy, with the exception of his preoccupation with his bride-to-be. Stan is one of the Engineering Branch's industrial engineers for the Storage Division.

Since he came to Benecia Arsenal last February, Stan has led a busy life. The engineering work he does for Storage has taken up his working hours pretty much and his bride, as of October 27, has filled the remaining time very nicely.



Stan was inducted at Fort Myer, Virginia, and received basic training at Fort Riley, Kansas. Before his induction last November he worked for his father's company, Joy and Cox, Incorporated, in Denver, Colorado, as sales engineer selling parts for power plants. This lasted until September when he accepted a position with the Combustion Engineering Company of New York as an engineer trainee. He began at the Chattanooga, Tennessee, plant learning maintenance and sales work and traveled from there to two other plants studying operations from the ground up.

Going back a few years, Private Joy was born in Denver July 9, 1928. As he grew up his spare time was filled in part by playing in the school band and orchestra. He liked to go skiing in the winter and golfing in the summer. He graduated from high school in 1946 and entered the University of Colorado as an engineering student.

Here Stan took up his music again, joined the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and majored as mechanical engineer specializing in heat power. He graduated in June, 1949, with a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering.

## Clarence L. Benter

North Dakota's contribution to Benecia Arsenal is found in Pvt. Clarence L. Benter. Clarence is the project engineer for Fire Control and provides them with the mechanical and industrial engineering assistance.

Pvt. Benter came to Benecia Arsenal last winter via Fort Riley, Kansas, and Fort Myer, Virginia, after being inducted into the Army.

Born in Crosby, North Dakota, December 19, 1927, he spent his grammar and high school days striving for higher and higher achievements. While in high school he helped direct school plays and graduated as valedictorian of his class. This was in addition to working at the local gas station after school to earn his spending money. For one year after high school Clarence went to work in order to earn enough money to start college.

Because of his outstanding school work he was offered scholarships upon graduation, but passed them up in order to enter the University of North Dakota.

Clarence majored in industrial engineering and actively participated in the Society for Advancement of Management as its treasurer. He was elected to Sigma Xi, the scientific honorary fraternity, and Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honorary society. He graduated with a bachelor of science degree as top industrial engineer of his class, May, 1950.

After graduation he farmed with his father until induction in October, 1950.

Clarence likes to bowl, play softball, and is interested in most sports. He is a likeable fellow who gets his job done without complaining and doesn't have to be asked twice for a helping hand.



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## Straight From Headquarters

By ALICE REED

Many of our personnel enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday by visiting friends and relatives. Among these were Gloria Krasovec, typist pool, who visited with friends in San Leandro for the four days, and Iako Yamane, typist pool, and husband, Tom, of management, who spent the holidays visiting her family in Newcastle.

We all want to wish Jo Roberts, of the Comptroller's Office, the best of luck upon her moving into her new home just in time for Thanksgiving.

Peggy Farmer, of the adjutant's office, and her husband spent Thanksgiving day with her mother and brothers in San Francisco—everyone enjoyed it.

We are all glad to welcome Dorothy Vico, typist pool, back to work after her lengthy illness.

Upon being queried as to how she spent her holiday, Dorothea Souza of the executive office answered that she *just ate*. I think that sums it up for a lot of us.

Al Meely, Chief of Signal Branch is sporting a new car lately. Sure is pretty.

M/Sgt. Ignatz Kapp, first sergeant of the Technical Service Unit, treated the adjutant's office to a box of luscious chocolates upon receiving a long-awaited reenlistment bonus.

Commanding Officer Col. R. S. Chavin and Mrs. Chavin were guests at the Enlisted Men's Mess for Thanksgiving dinner. Flowers were supplied by the Benicia Arsenal Garden Club. There were many compliments on the good dinner and beautiful decorations.

A good turnout from headquarters recently gave blood for the armed services blood bank. We all know how desperately the blood is needed in Korea.

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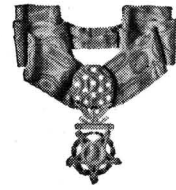
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tions, throwing grenades, and clubbing and bayoneting the enemy. Inspired by his example, the attacking unit routed the enemy, who fled in wild disorder.

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